

School Attendance (Ireland) Bill.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES.

Clause.

1. Amendment of law as to number of attendances.
 2. Application of penalties.
 3. Amendment of law regarding excuse for non-attendance at school.
 4. Protection of school attendance officers.
 5. Enforcement of attendance at school.
 6. Extension of application of compulsion.
 7. Amendment of law regarding school-going age.
 8. Definition.
 9. Short title and construction.
 10. Commencement of Act.
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TO

Amend the Irish Education Act, 1892.

A.D. 1909.

BE it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

5 **1.**—(1) The number of attendances for the purposes of section one of the Act of 1892 shall be eighty-five complete attendances in each half-year ending respectively the thirtieth day of June and the thirty-first day of December at any national or other efficient school. Amendment of law as to number of attendances.

10 (2) In any rural district the number of complete attendances for the purposes of the said section, whenever the said section is applied to such district, shall be eighty in each half-year ending respectively the thirtieth day of June and the thirty-first day of December at any national or other efficient school.

15 (3) The First Schedule to the Act of 1892 shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

20 **2.** Notwithstanding anything in subsection five of section three of the Act of 1892, the whole amount of any penalties under the said Act shall be applied in relief of the local rates of the place or district in which the same shall be recovered. Application of penalties.

3. Paragraph (c) subsection (3) of section one of the Act of 1892 shall be construed as if the words "even though that distance is less than two miles" were omitted therefrom. Amendment of law regarding excuse for non-attendance at school.

35 **4.** If any person shall molest, or assault, or otherwise unlawfully interfere with, any officer of a school attendance committee in the performance of his duty under the Irish Education Acts, 1892 to 1909, he shall without prejudice to any Protection of school attendance officers.

[Bill 331.]

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A.D. 1909. — other liability, be liable on summary conviction to imprisonment not exceeding three months, with or without hard labour, or to a fine not exceeding *forty shillings*.

Enforcement of attendance at school. 5
 5.—(1) If any parent who is required by the Act of 1892 to cause his child to attend school makes default without reasonable excuse in so doing, the school attendance committee may, after due warning to such parent, make complaint to a court of summary jurisdiction, and the court, if satisfied of the truth of such complaint, may, unless the parent satisfies the court that there is a reasonable excuse within the meaning of 10
 this Act for such default, impose on him a fine not exceeding *twenty shillings* and costs.

(2) A complaint under this section shall not be repeated by the school attendance committee at any less interval than two weeks. 15

(3) Section four of the Act of 1892 shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Extension of application of compulsion. 20
 6. Subsection two of section fifteen of the Act of 1892 shall be, and the same is, hereby repealed, and instead thereof, be it enacted that the provisions of sections one to fourteen, 20
 both inclusive, of the said Act shall apply to every part of Ireland not mentioned in subsection one of the said section fifteen, and the county council shall, for the purposes of the said provisions, be the local authority in every place not so mentioned as aforesaid. 25

Amendment of law regarding school-going age. 30
 7. Subsection one of section two of the Act of 1892 shall be amended by the substitution of the word "sixteen" for the word "fourteen" in that subsection.

Definition. 8. "The Act of 1892" means the Irish Education Act, 1892. 35

Short title and construction. 9. This Act may be cited as the Irish Education Amendment Act, 1909, and shall be read together with the Act of 1892; and this Act and the Act of 1892 may be cited collectively as the Irish Education Acts, 1892 to 1909. 40

Commencement of Act. 10. This Act shall come into operation on the passing 85
 thereof.

School Attendance (Ireland).

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To amend the Irish Education Act,
1892.

Presented by Mr. Murphy.

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[Bill 331.]